

Application of: Ko-Pen Wang
Serial No.: 10/693,645
Filed: October 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of January 24, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A medical device, comprising:

a flexible outer tubular member having proximal and distal ends;

~~an inner tubular member having proximal and distal ends slidably and coaxially received within the outer tubular member,~~

a flexible inner stylet having proximal and distal ends slidably and coaxially received within the inner tubular member;

a spring member having proximal and distal ends oriented adjacent the distal end of the outer tubular member, the spring member being coaxially received within the outer tubular member and surrounding a portion of the inner stylet, wherein the proximal end of the spring member is coupled to the stylet;

a retractable outer hollow needle member having a proximal end coupled to the distal end of the spring member; and

a retractable inner hollow needle member slidably and coaxially received within the outer hollow needle member and having a proximal end coupled to the distal end of the stylet;

wherein the device has a retracted position wherein the inner and outer hollow needle members are completely housed within the outer tubular member, a first extended position wherein the outer hollow needle member and a first length of the inner hollow needle member extend beyond the distal end of the outer tubular member, and a second extended position wherein the outer hollow needle member and a second length of the inner hollow needle member extend beyond the distal end of the outer tubular member, the second length being longer than the first length.

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2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the spring member is more compressed in the second extended position than in the first extended position.

3. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising:
a hard tip rigidly fixed to the distal end of the outer tubular member, the tip including a bearing surface on the proximal end thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 3, wherein the outer hollow needle member comprises a limiting member rigidly associated with the outer hollow needle member and contacting the bearing surface of the tip member in the first and second extended positions.

5. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the spring member comprises ~~[[a]] first spring having proximal and distal ends and [[a]] second portions, spring having proximal and distal ends, and wherein the first portion spring is oriented~~ distally with respect to the second portion spring, and wherein the distal end of the first portion spring is attached to the outer hollow needle member~~[[,]]~~ and the proximal end of the second portion spring is attached to the stylet.

6. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 5, wherein ~~the first spring comprises a first wavelength and the second portion is uncompressed spring comprises a second wavelength greater than the first wavelength~~ in the first extended position.

7. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 6, wherein the second portion is partially compressed spring ~~comprises a third wavelength~~ in the second extended

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position, ~~the third wavelength being less than the second wavelength.~~

8.-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, further including an ~~wherein the~~ inner tubular member is attached to a first grippable cap member, and the stylet is attached to a second grippable cap member wherein the inner tubular member is provided to control the rotation of the outer and inner hollow needle members.

13. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the inner hollow needle member comprises a side gap which includes trocar edge.

14. (Currently Amended) A tissue collection device, comprising:
an elongated outer flexible hollow catheter having proximal and distal ends;
~~a rigid inner tubular member slidably positioned within the proximal end of the hollow catheter;~~
an elongated stylet slidably positioned within the rigid inner tubular member;
a helically wound wire member having proximal and distal ends and having a portion thereof being coaxially attached to the stylet;
an outer hollow needle member attached to the distal end of the helically wound wire member; and
an inner hollow needle member telescopically received within the outer hollow needle member and attached to a distal portion of the stylet, the inner hollow needle member including a sampling portion device.

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15.-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 15, wherein the sampling portion device comprises a sharp edge on the distal end of the inner hollow needle member.

18. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 15, wherein the sampling portion device is a side gap having a sharp trocar edge.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 14 ~~[[19]]~~, wherein the device has a first extended position wherein a first length of the inner hollow needle member extends beyond the distal end of the hollow catheter.

21. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 20, wherein the device has a second extended position wherein a second length of the inner hollow needle member extends beyond the distal end of the hollow catheter, wherein the second length is longer than the first length.

22. (Original) The device of claim 21, further comprising:
a hard tip rigidly fixed to the distal end of the catheter, the tip including a bearing surface on the proximal end thereof.

23. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 22, wherein the outer hollow needle member comprises a limiting member rigidly associated therewith and contacting the

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bearing surface of the tip member in the first and second extended positions.

24.-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A medical device, comprising:

a leur lock member including first and second grippable cap members, wherein the leur lock member is connectable to an aspirating device; [[.]]

an outer tubular member having proximal and distal ends, the proximal end being connected to the leur lock member;

a rigid inner tubular member having proximal and distal ends and being slidably positioned within the proximal end of the outer tubular member, wherein the proximal end of the inner tubular member is attached to the first grippable cap member;

an elongated stylet having proximal and distal ends and being slidably positioned within the rigid inner tubular member, wherein the proximal end of the stylet is attached to the second grippable cap member;

a compressable spring member having proximal and distal ends and coaxially surrounding a portion of the stylet, wherein the proximal end of the spring member is attached to the stylet;

an outer hollow needle member having a proximal end which is attached to the distal end of the spring member; and

an inner hollow needle member having proximal and distal ends and being telescopically received within the outer hollow needle member, wherein the ~~proximal end of the~~ inner hollow needle member is attached to the distal end of the stylet.

28. (Original) The device of claim 27, wherein the device includes a retracted

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position wherein the outer and inner hollow needle members are housed within the outer tubular member; a first extended position, wherein a first portion of the inner hollow needle member extends distally beyond the distal end of the outer tubular member; and a second extended position, wherein a second portion of the inner hollow needle member extends distally beyond the distal end of the outer tubular member, the second portion being longer than the first portion.

29. (Original) The device of claim 28, where the spring member is more compressed in the second extended position than in the first extended position.

30. (Original) The device of claim 27, further comprising:

a rigid fixed tubular member having proximal and distal ends and coaxially received within the outer tubular member, wherein the proximal end of the fixed tubular member is attached to the leuer lock member, and wherein the fixed tubular member coaxially houses a portion of the inner tubular member and a portion of the stylet.

31. (Original) The device of claim 30, further comprising:

a limiting member fixed to the inner tubular member, wherein the limiting member biasly acts against the distal end of the fixed tubular member to prevent removal of the inner tubular member from the medical device.

32. (Original) The device of claim 31, wherein the stylet includes a kink which biasly acts against the distal end of the inner tubular member to prevent the removal of the stylet from the medical device.

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33. (Original) The device of claim 28, wherein the spring member comprises a first spring having a first wavelength, and a second spring having a second wavelength, and wherein the first spring is oriented distally with respect to the second spring, and wherein the first wavelength is longer than the second wavelength while in the retracted and first extended positions.

34. (Original) The device of claim 28, wherein the spring member comprises a first spring having a first wavelength, and a second spring having a second wavelength, and wherein the first spring is oriented distally with respect to the second spring, and wherein the first wavelength is shorter than the second wavelength while in the retracted and first extended positions.

35. (Original) The device of claim 34, wherein the first spring is integral with the second spring.